AMENDMENT U.S. Appln. No. 09/674,620

Dily

in retouching the image data of the picture elements, an image data attribute specifying unit for acquiring specification of the attribute of image data to be handled is caused to execute the function thereof, and

said image data retouching unit is caused to execute the function thereof on the basis of the image data having the attribute acquired by said image data attribute specifying unit.

12. (Amended) An image data retouching apparatus, as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said image data attribute specifying unit specifies luminance signals as the attribute when high-speed image data retouching is desired and specifies element color signals constituting an image as the attribute when high-quality image data retouching is desired.

## **REMARKS**

The above amendment eliminates improper multiple dependency. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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